

arrangement storing unique identification data for the at least one valid key and storing enable data corresponding to the unique identification data for the at least one valid key, the electronic verification arrangement generating an authority for accessing a secured object when authentication data is received from the at least one valid key, the method comprising the steps of:

accessing the unique identification data for the at least one valid key in a mode of the security system;

performing a predetermined procedure to enter a key validation mode of the security system, the step of performing the predetermined procedure being performed by a user of the security system;

retaining enable data for each of the at least one valid key within a transceiver range in the key validation mode;

deleting other enable data for each of the at least one valid key outside the transceiver range in the key validation mode; and

deactivating each of the at least one key for which the other enable data is deleted in the step of deleting.

31. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the predetermined procedure includes a vehicle starting procedure.

32. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the predetermined procedure includes a vehicle access procedure.

33. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the predetermined procedure includes a standard vehicle procedure using a standard vehicle control.

34. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the standard vehicle control includes at least one of a brake pedal, a clutch pedal, an ignition switch, a start switch and a door handle.

35. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein:

the predetermined procedure includes at least one of a vehicle starting procedure and a vehicle access procedure; and

steps of the at least one of the vehicle starting procedure and the vehicle access procedure are performed at different times than times for performing the standard vehicle procedure.

36. (New) The method of claim 30, further comprising the step of indicating completion of the key validation mode.

37. (New) The method of claim 30, further comprising the step of generating a display of at least one activated valid key of the security system to indicate completion of the key validation mode.

38. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the at least one key is without an activating button.

39. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the enable data includes a control byte.

40. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the authority allows access to the secured object.

41. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein the secured object is a vehicle.

42. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the secured object is a vehicle and the authority allows operation of the vehicle.

43. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the operation includes starting the vehicle.

44. (New) A security system comprising:

at least one valid key; and

an electronic verification arrangement including a transceiver for communicating with the at least one valid key and including a mode for accessing unique identification data, wherein the electronic verification arrangement is operable to:

store the unique identification data for the at least one valid key;

generate an authority for accessing a secured object when authentication data is received from the at least one valid key;

store enable data in accordance with the unique identification data for each activated one of the at least one valid key;

enter a key validation mode when a user performs a predetermined procedure;

retain enable data for each of the at least one valid key within a transceiver range in the key validation mode; and

delete other enable data for each of the at least one valid key outside the transceiver range in the key validation mode.

45. (New) The security system of claim 44, wherein the predetermined procedure includes a vehicle starting procedure.

46. (New) The security system of claim 44, wherein the predetermined procedure includes a vehicle entry procedure.

47. (New) The security system of claim 44, wherein the predetermined procedure includes a standard vehicle procedure using a standard vehicle control.

48. (New) The security system of claim 47, wherein the standard vehicle control includes at least one of a brake pedal, a clutch pedal, an ignition switch, a start switch and a door handle.

49. (New) The security system of claim 47, wherein:

the predetermined procedure includes at least one of a vehicle starting procedure and a vehicle entry procedure; and

steps of the at least one of the vehicle starting procedure and the vehicle entry procedure are performed at different times than times for performing the standard vehicle procedure.

50. (New) The security system of claim 44, further comprising an indicating arrangement for indicating completion of the key validation mode.

51. (New) The security system of claim 44, further comprising an indicating arrangement for generating a display of at least one activated valid key of the security system.

52. (New) The security system of claim 44, wherein the at least one key is without an activating button.

53. (New) The security system of claim 44, wherein the enable data includes a control byte.

54. (New) The security system of claim 44, wherein the authority allows access to the secured object.

55. (New) The security system of claim 54, wherein the secured object is a vehicle.

56. (New) The security system of claim 44, wherein the secured object is a vehicle and the authority allows operation of the vehicle.

57. (New) The security system of claim 56, wherein the operation includes starting the vehicle.

58. (New) A vehicle comprising:

a security system including:

at least one valid key; and

an electronic verification arrangement including a transceiver for communicating with the at least one valid key and including a mode for accessing unique identification data, wherein the electronic verification arrangement is operable to:

store the unique identification data for the at least one valid key;

generate an authority for accessing a secured object when authentication data is received from the at least one valid key;

store enable data in accordance with the unique identification data for each activated one of the at least one valid key;

enter a key validation mode when a user performs a predetermined procedure;

retain enable data for each of the at least one valid key within a transceiver range in the key validation mode; and

delete other enable data for each of the at least one valid key outside the transceiver range in the key validation mode.

59. (New) A security system for use with a motor vehicle, the security system comprising:
at least one key including an identification number; and
an electronic control unit including a transmitter/receiver for communicating with the at least one key and for receiving the identification number, and including a memory for storing identification data to provide stored identification data, the electronic control unit granting at least one of access and start-up operation of the motor vehicle if the identification number is included in the stored identification data of the memory;

wherein:

at least one enabling information message is storable in the memory and is associated with the identification number of the at least one key;

the electronic control unit in a validation mode causes each of the at least one key located within a broadcast range of the transmitter/receiver to transmit another identification number of each the at least one key located within the broadcast range, for setting the enabling information message of the another identification number of each the at least one key located within the broadcast range to provide a set enabling information message, and for resetting other enabling information of the at least one enabling information message for all other identification data stored in the memory; and

the electronic control unit grants at least one of access and driving authorization only in response to the set enabling information message.

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment cancels without prejudice original claims 1 to 29 and substitute claim 1 in the underlying PCT Application No. PCT/DE99/02811, and adds without prejudice new claims 30 to 59. The new claims conform the claims to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office rules and do not add new matter to the application.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(3), the Substitute Specification (including the Abstract, but without the claims) contains no new matter. The amendments reflected in the